

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 173

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Russell N. Perkins on his distinguished service to the State of Tennessee as an Assistant District Public Defender for the Sixteenth Judicial District.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Russell N. "Rusty" Perkins of Murfreesboro, who has rendered sterling service since 1989 to the citizens of Rutherford and Cannon counties as the Assistant District Public Defender for the Sixteenth Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, the first individual to hold this esteemed position, Mr. Perkins was appointed by Gerald L. Melton, the District Public Defender, when the statewide public defender system was originally established; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary service as an Assistant Public Defender, Russell Perkins has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to this State, having represented his clients zealously in the Juvenile Courts, the General Sessions Courts, the Circuit Courts, and the Appellate Courts of this State; and

WHEREAS, born on April 3, 1957, in Marks, Mississippi, Russell Perkins is the son of William H. and Hilda Green Perkins and attended the University of Mississippi, where he obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence; and

WHEREAS, while attending the University of Mississippi, Mr. Perkins met his future wife, Cindy Dockery, and they were joined in holy matrimony on July 22, 1978, with the blessings of her parents, Joseph R. and Sylvia H. Dockery; and

WHEREAS, an active part of his community, Rusty Perkins is an Eagle Scout and is a faithful member of the Living Water Church; he enjoys outdoor activities, community theatre, reading, and building and repairing things around the house; and

WHEREAS, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Rusty Perkins enjoys the love and support of his wife, Cindy Dockery Perkins; their three children, Joseph Scott Perkins, Stephen Andrew "Drew" (Heather) Perkins, and Whitney Perkins (Brian) Opalek; and their grandchildren, Tinley and Adelyn; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Russell Perkins has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the Bar and the Bench, and his community alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Russell N. Perkins for his meritorious service to the good people of the State of Tennessee as an Assistant District Public Defender for the Sixteenth Judicial District and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.